

Message Text

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SUBJ: UN MEMBERSHIP: STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR BENNETT,
SECURITY IOUNCIL, AUGUST 18

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR BENNETT IN
SECURITY COUNCIL, AUGUST 18, FOLLOWING UNANIMOUS VOTES IN
FAVOR OF UN ADMISSION FOR CAPE VERDE, SAO TOME AND
PRINCIPE, AND MOZAMBIQUE:

QUOTE:

MR. PRESIDENT:

THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION WELCOMES THE PROSPECT
THAT THIS YEAR THERE WILL BE THREE NEW AFRICAN MEMBERS
OF THE UNITED NATIONS: THE REPUBLIC OF CAPE VERDE, THE
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE AND THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE. THE UNITED STATES IS
PARTICULARLY PLEASED TO SUPPORT THE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF CAPE VERDE BECAUSE OF THE VERY LONG
TIES OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. IN HIS
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LETTER OF JULY 5 - THE DAY OF CAPE VERDE'S INDEPENDENCE -

PRESIDENT FORD STATED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CAPE VERDE, HIS EXCELLENCY ARISTIDES PEREIRA, HOW MUCH WE AS A NATION LOOK FORWARD "TO THE OPPORTUNITY FOR TWO NATIONS TO WORK TOGETHER IN THE CAUSE OF PEACE, FREEDOM AND THE WELFARE OF MANKIND."

THERE IS A LONG HISTORY OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE PETPLES OF OUR TWO STATES, AND INDEED THE CLOSE BOND OF KINSHIP. THESE TIES GO BACK TO THE EARLY DAYS OF OUR OWN NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE. THE FIRST AMERICAN CONSULATE

IN CAPE VERDE WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1816. OVER THESE MANY DECADES A LARGE NUMBER OF CAPE VERDEANS HAS EMIGRATED TO THE UNITED STATES. LEADERS OF THE CAPE VERDEAN COMMUNITY ESTIMATE THAT BETWEEN 200,000 AND 300,000 AMERICAN CITIZENS ARE OF CAPE VERDEAN DESCENT. THEY HAVE ADDED THEIR LANGUAGE, THEIR CULTURE AND THEIR FINE TRAITS OF ENERGY AND SELF-RELIANCE TO THE AMERICAN SCENE.

I AM ESPECIALLY GLAD TO WELCOME TO THIS SECURITY COUNCIL CHAMBER THIS AFTERNOON THREE DISTINGUISHED AMERICANS OF CAPE VERDEAN DESCENT, MR. RAYMOND ALMEIDA, MR. QANTHONY RAMOS, AND MR. SALAH MATTEOS. THEY ARE PRESENT IN THE GALLERY.

I MUST AT THE SAME TIME EXPRESS REGRET THAT THE COUNCIL HAS ACTED SO HASTILY IN THE CASE OF CAPE VERDEAN REPRESENTATION AS NOT TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CAPE VERDE ALSO TO BE PRESENT ON THIS OCCASION, AS I UNDERSTAND WAS REQUESTED.

MR. PRESIDENT, PERHAPS NOT MANY AROUND THIS TABLE HAVE HAD THE PRIVILEGE WHICH WAS MINE OF HAVING VISITED PERSONALLY THE CAPE VERDE ISLANDS. I WELL REMEMBER FROM THAT VISIT THE BUSY ACTIVITY IN THE STREETS OF PRAIA, THE CAPITAL; THE BEAUTIFUL AND ACTIVE HARBOR OF MINDELO AND THE VERDANT AGRICULTURAL VALLEYS OF SAO ANTAO. THE STALWART QUALITIES OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS NEW REPUBLIC ARE A VIVID MEMORY FOR ME, AND A SOURCE OF STRENGTH FOR THE NEW STATE.

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THE UNITED STATES WELCOMES THE REPUBLIC OF CAPE VERDE TO THE UNITED NATIONS, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH ITS REPRESENTATIVES IN OUR COMMON MISSION OF FURTHERING INTERNATIONAL PEACE, COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT. IN THIS SPIRIT OF COOPERATION, THE UNITED STATES HAS RESPONDED TO THE APPEAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF CAPE VERDE FOR ASSISTANCE IN ALLEVIATING THE EFFECTS OF A SEVERE DROUGHT. MY GOVERNMENT IS PROVIDING THE ISLANDS WITH \$5 MILLION IN FOOD AND

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

MR. PRESIDENT, THE UNITED STATES ALSO SUPPORTED THE APPLICATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNITED NATIONS. THE ISLANDS OF SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE HAVE A LONG HISTORICAL TRADITION AND A RICH CULTURAL HERITAGE. MY GOVERNMENT HAS PLEASED TO HAVE BEEN REPRESENTED AT THE INDEPENDENCE CEREMONIES OF SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE ON JULY 12. THE AMERICAN DELEGATION AT THE CEREMONIES WAS GREATLY IMPRESSED WITH THE BEAUTY OF THE ISLANDS AND THE WARMTH OF THEIR PEOPLE. WE ARE SYMPATHETIC TO THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE FOR PROGRESS. TO ASSIST IN THE ISLANDS' ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, THE UNITED STATES HAS MADE AVAILABLE SCHOLARSHIPS IN THIS IOWA TRY TO HELP DEVELOP SKILLED RESOURCES FOR THE ISLANDS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO COOPERATING CLOSELY WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE, IN PURSUING THE LOFTY GOALS OF THE UNITED NATIONS TO WHICH WE ARE DEDICATED.

THE UNITED STATES HAS ALSO VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE ADMISSION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE TO THE UNITED NATIONS. TOGETHER WITH GUINEA-BISSAU, FOR WHOSE MEMBERSHIP WE VOTED IN THE 29TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, MOZAMBIQUE, THE REPUBLIC OF CAPE VERDE AND THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE, ALL OF WHOM THIS COUNCIL HAS JUST RECOMMENDED BE ADMITTED, CONSTITUTE AN IMPORTANT ADDITION TO THE UNITED NATIONS OF AFRICAN STATES. THEIR ADMISSION IS ANOTHER STEP TOWARD THE DEVELOPMENT OF A WORLD-WIDE ORGANIZATION IN WHICH WE HOPE ALL THOSE NATIONS THAT DESIRE MEMBERSHIP, AND ARE WILLING AND ABLE TO CARRY OUT THEIR OBLIGATIONS, WILL BE REPRESENTED.

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BENNETT

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